

Graylog Server

Deployment Guide

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1 Introduction

Graylog Server enables you to monitor all activity in your network including established or rejected network connections. With Graylog you can centrally collect the syslog messages of your complete infrastructure, spot problems early and resolve issues faster. This eliminates the need to log in to multiple devices to parse plain text log files.

The Kemp LoadMaster is used to load balance the Graylog Server workload. The LoadMaster offers advanced Layer 4 and Layer 7 server load balancing, SSL Acceleration and a multitude of other advanced Application Delivery Controller (ADC) features. The LoadMaster intelligently and efficiently distributes user traffic among the application servers so that users get the best experience possible.

1.1 Document Purpose

This document provides the recommended LoadMaster settings used when load balancing the Graylog Server workload. The Kemp Support Team is available to provide solutions for scenarios not explicitly defined. The Kemp support site can be found at: https://support.kemptechnologies.com

1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended to be read by anyone who is interested in configuring the LoadMaster to optimize the Graylog Server.

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2 Template

Kemp has developed a template containing our recommended settings for this workload. You can install this template to help create Virtual Services (VSs) because it automatically populates the settings. You can use the template to easily create the required VSs with the recommended settings. For some workloads, additional manual steps may be required such as assigning a certificate or applying port following, these steps are covered in the document, if needed.

You can remove templates after use and this will not affect deployed services. If needed, you can make changes to any of the VS settings after using the template.

Download released templates from the following page: LoadMaster Templates.

For more information and steps on how to import and use templates, refer to the Virtual Services and Templates, Feature Description on the Kemp Documentation page.

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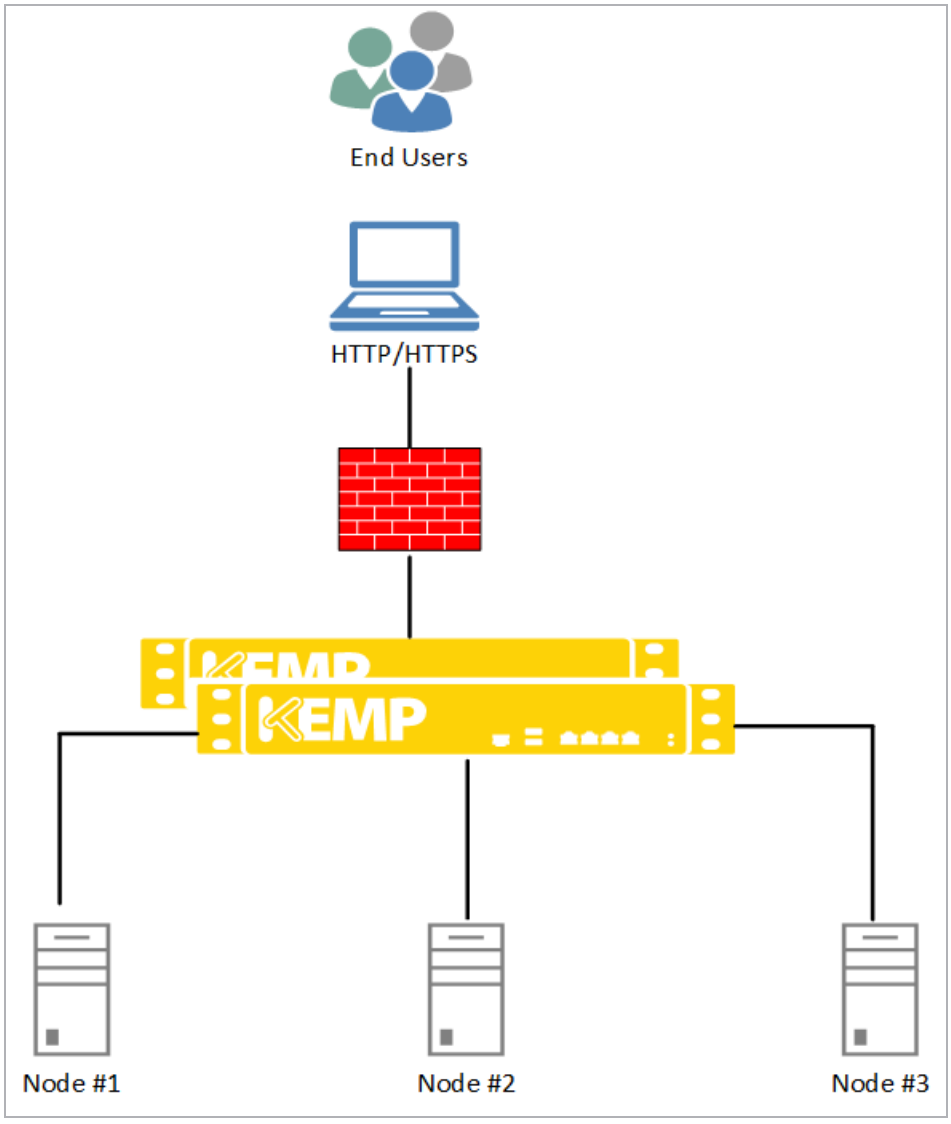
3 Architecture



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4 Configure the LoadMaster

The deployed Graylog Server environment determines which of the following setups is used.

4.1 Enable Subnet Originating Requests Globally

It is best practice to enable the **Subnet Originating Requests** option globally.

In a one-armed setup (where the Virtual Service and Real Servers are on the same network/subnet) **Subnet Originating Requests** is usually not needed. However, enabling **Subnet Originating Requests** should not affect the routing in a one-armed setup.

In a two-armed setup where the Virtual Service is on network/subnet A, for example, and the Real Servers are on network B, **Subnet Originating Requests** should be enabled on LoadMasters with firmware version 7.1-16 and above.



When **Subnet Originating Requests** is enabled, the Real Server sees traffic originating from 10.20.20.21 (LoadMaster eth1 address) and responds correctly in most scenarios.

With **Subnet Originating Requests** disabled, the Real Server sees traffic originating from 10.0.0.15 (LoadMaster Virtual Service address on **eth0**) and responds to **eth0** which could cause asymmetric routing.

When **Subnet Originating Requests** is enabled globally, it is automatically enabled on all Virtual Services. If the **Subnet Originating Requests** option is disabled globally, you can choose whether to enable **Subnet Originating Requests** on a per-Virtual Service basis.

To enable **Subnet Originating Requests** globally, follow the steps below:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster User Interface (UI), go to **System Configuration > Miscellaneous Options > Network Options**.
2. Select the **Subnet Originating Requests** check box.

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4.2 Enable Check Persist Globally

It is recommended that you change the **Always Check Persist** option to **Yes – Accept Changes**. Use the following steps:

1. Go to **System Configuration > Miscellaneous Options > L7 Configuration**.
2. Click the **Always Check Persist** drop-down arrow and select **Yes – Accept Changes**.

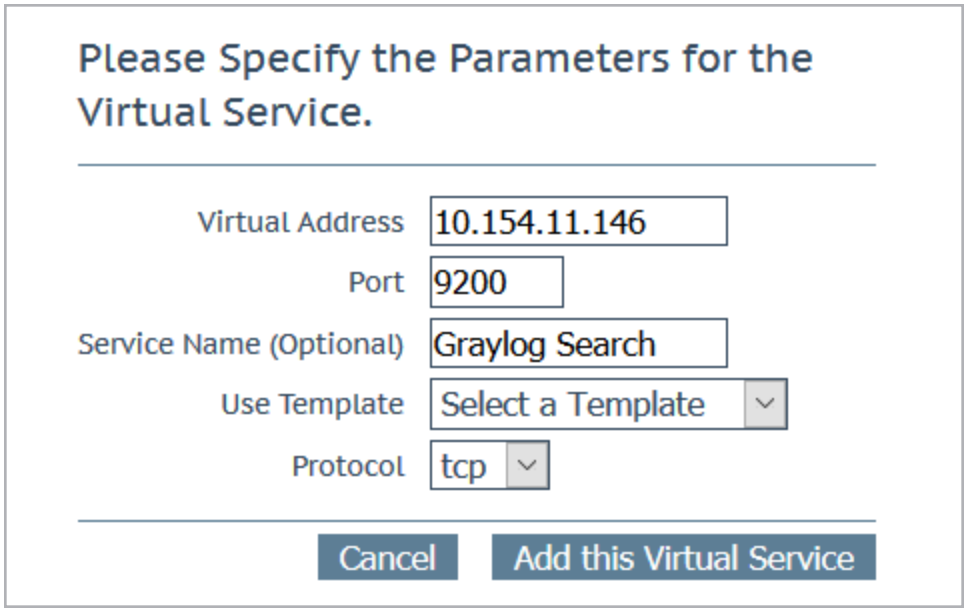
4.3 Create the Graylog Server Virtual Services

The following sections describe the recommended settings for the Graylog Server Virtual Services.

4.3.1 Create a Graylog Search Virtual Service

The following are the steps involved and the recommended settings to configure the Graylog Search Virtual Service:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster Web User Interface (WUI), go to **Virtual Services > Add New**.



2. Type a valid **Virtual Address**.
3. Type **9200** as the **Port**.
4. Enter a recognizable Service Name, such as **Graylog Search** Virtual Service.
5. Click **Add this Virtual Service**.

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6. Select **fixed weighting** as the **Scheduling Method**.

7. Add the Real Servers:

   a) Expand the **Real Servers** section.

   b) Click **Add New**.

   c) Enter the address of the relevant Real Server.

   d) Complete the other fields as required.

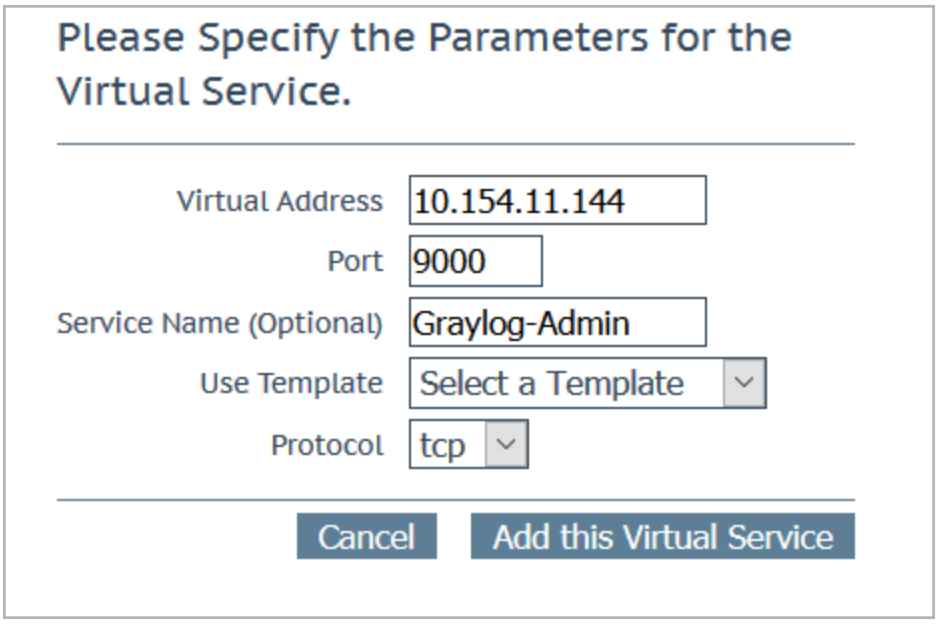
   e) Click **Add this Real Server** then click **OK** to the pop-up message.

   f) Repeat the steps above to add more Real Servers as needed, based on your environment.

4.3.2 Create a Graylog-Admin Virtual Service

The following are the steps involved and the recommended settings to configure the Graylog-Admin Virtual Service:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster WUI, go to **Virtual Services > Add New**.



2. Type a valid **Virtual Address**.

3. Type **9000** as the **Port**.

4. Enter a recognizable **Service Name**, such as **Graylog-Admin** Virtual Service.

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5. Click **Add this Virtual Service**.
6. Select fixed weighting as the **Scheduling Method**.
7. Add the Real Servers:

   a) Expand the **Real Servers** section.

   b) Click **Add New**.

   c) Enter the address of the relevant Real Server.

   d) Complete the other fields as required.

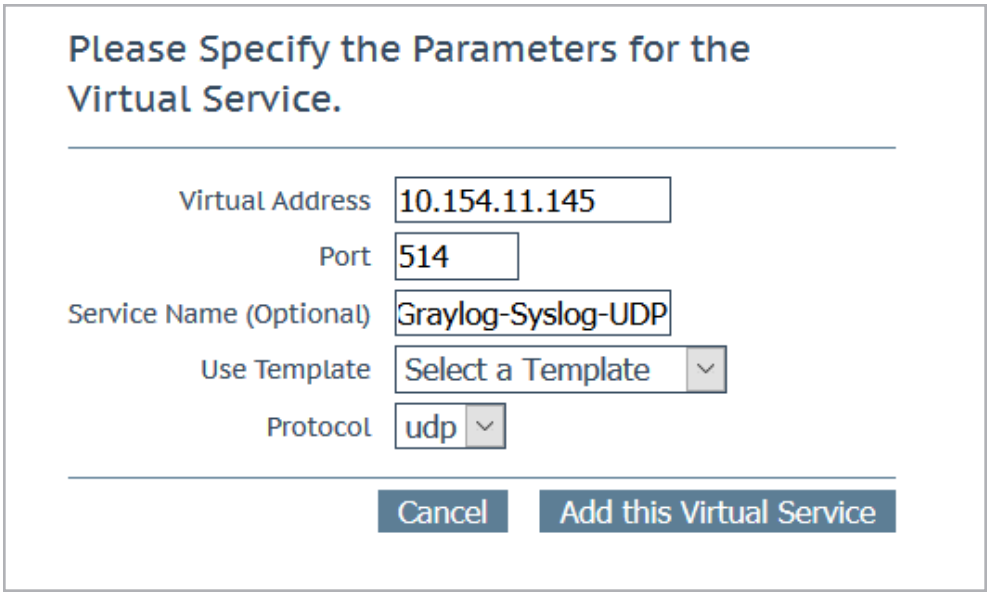
   e) Click **Add this Real Server** then click **OK** to the pop-up message.

   f) Repeat the steps above to add more Real Servers as needed, based on your environment.

4.3.3 Create a Graylog-Syslog UDP Virtual Service

The following are the steps involved and the recommended settings to configure the Graylog-Syslog UDP Virtual Service:

1. In the main menu of the LoadMaster WUI, go to **Virtual Services > Add New**.



2. Type a valid **Virtual Address**.
3. Type **514** as the **Port**.

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4. Enter a recognizable Service Name, such as Graylog-Syslog UDP Virtual Service.
5. Select **udp** as the **Protocol**.
6. Click **Add this Virtual Service**.
7. Configure the settings as recommended in the following table:

Section	Option	Value
Standard Options	Force L4	Disabled
	Scheduling Method	fixed weighting
	Idle Connection Timeout	300

8. Add the Real Servers:
   a) Expand the **Real Servers** section.
   b) Click **Add New**.
   c) Enter the address of the relevant Real Server.
   d) Complete the other fields as required.
   e) Click **Add this Real Server** then click **OK** to the pop-up message.
   f) Repeat the steps above to add more Real Servers as needed, based on your environment.

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References

Unless otherwise specified, the following documents can be found at http://kemptechnologies.com/documentation.

Virtual Services and Templates, Feature Description

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